



Australian Plants Society Ballarat District Newsletter – June 2022

**MONTHLY MEETINGS ON THE 2ND WEDNESDAY
at ROBERT CLARK HORTICULTURAL CENTRE
GILLIES STREET ENTRANCE – GATE 3 or 4**

FURTHER DETAILS SEE INFORMATION BOX

COMING EVENTS

**WEDNESDAY 8th JUNE 2022 – 2 PM
MONTHLY MEETING**

➔ **NOTE: Afternoon Meeting at 2.00pm** ←
(At the Robert Clark Horticultural Centre
Ballarat Botanical Gardens)

**FJC Rogers Biennial Seminar
15th- 16th October 2022**

Fabulous Peas 2022 - Discover the extraordinary
world of Australian pea plants.

Saturday: York on Lilydale, Mount Evelyn
Speakers with expertise in identifying, growing and
propagating peas. Learn about current research into
propagation and growing-on techniques. Evening
dinner and an entertaining speaker.
Plant sales of common and unusual pea species. Book
sales. Displays. Raffle.

Sunday: Coach tours to public and private native
gardens which include a wide variety of pea species.
Art exhibition and sale featuring pea plants from 8th –
14th October at Karwarra Australian Botanic Garden.
Expressions of interest: fabulouspeas2022@gmail.com
Registrations are now open. Early Bird Discount to 30th
June. Registrations close on 23rd September.
<https://apsvic.org.au/fjc-rogers-seminar-2022/>
Hosted: Australian Plants Society Maroondah Inc.



Jennifer Johnson photographed this
Veronica arenaria (formerly *Derwentia
arenaria*) (Cottage Blue Speedwell) in her
garden in June 2020.

APS Ballarat District Winter Flower Show 2022

at

Robert Clark Horticultural Centre, Ballarat Botanical Gardens

on

Sat 25th & Sun 26th June 2022, 10am to 4pm

(Set up Friday 24th, 11am to 3pm)

WINTER SHOW POSTER

A Poster advertising the Show was emailed to all on 10th May. It would be good if all members could **display, send, post, anything**, to help promote the APS Ballarat District Group and our Show displaying native plants growing and flowering in and around Ballarat in Winter.

May Meeting Guest Speaker Report

Ade Foster was guest speaker. His topic was Frogs in the Garden.

Ade held a comprehensive discussion regarding frogs at large, their surrounds, and in gardens. His presentation included great pictures and excellent audio of frogs and their calls.

Ade gave us information and advice regarding frogs and their environments, explaining good practices and how to provide habitat for them in a home garden. Amongst a host of advice was that frogs, whilst amphibians, do not live entirely in water, they move in areas at different heights and depths and use steps and levels in and around water to access various zones. They are also subject to predation and need varied environments to provide shelter and protect their populations, and propagation. Rocks, logs, plants and plant cover provide a large part in their existence and success in their environment. He mentioned web sites and apps for further knowledge and identification, for example, FrogWatch.com

Ade's talk was excellent. We enjoyed his presentation and thank him very much.

Ade also exhibited a range of specimens from his garden in the Geelong district and provided a named list of them for our newsletter. **Thank you, Ade.**

May Excursion Report

Dan Frost spoke about Seeding Victoria, and gave an informative discussion about seed collection, and insights into Seeding Victoria, their operations and good work. Seeding Victoria is a Not-for-Profit organisation established in 1994 at Creswick. It collects, stores and distributes appropriately sourced seed for revegetation works for most of Western Victoria with seed banks and seed supply. It supplies to Government agencies, native and indigenous nurseries, providing seed for trees, shrubs, lilies and grasses.

Dan's discussion demonstrated there is so much more involved than simply collecting seed.

A catalogue and more information on Seeding Victoria are available at:

<https://www.seedingvictoria.com.au/>

We enjoyed a garden walk and talk and appreciated Dan's observations in general, and from a seed perspective. A very educative and involving discussion – to an interested group.

We thank Dan very much.

May Meeting Specimens Exhibited

Ade Foster: *Grevillea fililoba*, *Grevillea bronweniae*, *Grevillea paradoxa*, *Grevillea* 'Georgeana', *Grevillea* 'Midas Touch', *Grevillea* 'Katherines Sister', *Grevillea* 'Molly', *Grevillea* 'Something Pink', *Grevillea* *Sylvia*, *Correa* 'Canberra Bells', *Correa pulchella* 'Gypsy', *Correa backhousia* 'Anglesea', *Correa alba* var. *pamosa*, *Eremophila flaccida*, *Eremophila splendens*, *Hemiondra pungens*, *Kunzea baxterii* 'Pink', *Prostranthera magnifica*, *Crowea saligna* 'Big Flower', *Thryptomene* 'Rogers Mystery'

Ruth Marton: *Banksia integrifolia*, *Banksia bauera*, *Banksia* 'Birthday Candles', *Banksia* 'Mini Marg', *Hakea petiolaris*, *Hakea drupacea*, *Hakea* 'Burrendong Beauty', *Acacia iteaphylla*, *Correa calcynia*, *Eucalyptus cosmopylla*

The Hasties: *Grevillea lanigera* 'Mt Tamboritha form', *Grevillea lanigera* 'Kangarutha form', *Grevillea rosemarinifolia* 'Lutea', *Hakea* 'Burrendong Beauty', *Hakea drupacea*, *Thryptomene* 'Paynes Hybrid', *Thryptomene saxicola* 'Rock Thryptomene Supernova', *Westringia glabra*, *Westringia rigida* 'Milky Way', *Eremophila glabra* 'Amber Carpet', *Hibiscus geranioides*, *Kunzea baxterii*, *Wollemia nobilis* (Wollemi Pine with male and female cones)

APS Ballarat District Group - Activities

Suggestions requested for Talks, Walks, Guest Speakers, Excursions, etc., indeed, anything of interest for the Group.

Library – APS Ballarat District.

We are gradually sorting out books in our library. A basic borrowing system will be in place. There are some books that have not been returned and this may be due to covid lockdowns etc.

Of note is 'Taller Eucalypts for Planting in Australian Gardens' by Dean Nicolle.

Any Member who has books out and are finding it difficult to return them, please phone Gladys on 53415567 and we can arrange to pick them up.

CORYMBIA MACULATA

Spotted Gum

Fon Ryan

Corymbia maculata occurs in a narrow coastal belt from south-east QLD to southern NSW, plus in an isolated population north-west of Orbost in eastern Victoria. It grows to 20-30 metres high x 10-20 metres wide.

It has been described as one of the most attractive trees of coastal NSW. The timber is hard, strong and tough, being one of the most suitable Australian timbers for tool handles. Additional usage includes construction, flooring, fibreboard and plywood.

It has been in cultivation for a long time, including overseas. Amenity plantings include for shade, shelter, windbreaks (with understory), and for its attractive appearance, increasingly being used as a street tree. While there were not large numbers growing in Ballarat 25-30 years ago, plantings took off from then and are continuing apace.

Flemings Nursery sells (advanced) Spotted Gum seedlings and lists them as growing to 25 metres high x 13 metres wide. In what may be the first cultivar of this species, Flemings, this year, have released a cultivar named 'Gamai'. It is described as having a narrow form and growing to 12m x 4m. It is asexually propagated on its own roots (cuttings or tissue culture).

A couple of decades ago I grafted a few trees from a mature street tree in Balwyn. That was believed to be the first time that this species had been grafted from a mature tree. Two of them were planted in the nearby Maranoa Gardens. A decade ago, in a City of Ballarat grafting program, I also grafted a few. But after only a small number were planted out, the program concluded.

At one stage there was a small cultivar named 'Nana', and apparently it could only be grafted from young trees, not older or mature ones. A Google search reveals an additional 4 or 5 named selections. With no additional information to go on, I would not be prepared to guess whether they are 'true' cultivars asexually propagated, or grown from seed.



A magnificent specimen of *Corymbia maculata* just inside the front fence of Ballarat & Clarendon College Mair Street campus (on the north side of the street). It appears to be well over 20 metres tall. It has a single straight trunk almost to the top. The well-proportioned branches are attached at a suitable angle to the trunk (not narrow-angle/upright) with good trunk-to-branch-attachment collars. Too large for the average home garden. If you wish to, have a look at a row of them in Remembrance Drive between The Arch of Victory and Ring Road on the north side in the nature strip.

Photo: Fon Ryan

TEN-YEAR FLASHBACK

Grevillea 'Ivory Whip'



Grevillea 'Ivory Whip' (grafted) shown by Neville Collier. This flower was 17cm long. Picture: Fon Ryan

This photograph appeared in the June 2012 newsletter.

Neville Collier had shown this specimen at the May (2012) meeting, along with 6 other grevilleas that were also in flower at that time.

He was grafting grevilleas, including onto standards, ten years ago, we can probably assume that he still is.

Thanks to those who contributed reports or items for this issue

Deadline for July Newsletter
29th June 2022

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY BALLARAT DISTRICT INC. Incorporation No. A0013127M

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MONTHLY MEETINGS

The **SECOND WEDNESDAY** in October, November, December, February, March, at 7-30pm
The **SECOND WEDNESDAY** in April, May, June, July, August, September, at 2-00pm

MEETING VENUE

ROBERT CLARK HORTICULTURAL CENTRE, Ballarat Botanical Gardens
Access: GILLIES St. ENTRANCE – GATE 3 or 4 (or from Wendouree Parade **Afternoon Meetings only**)

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WEB: (APS Vic): www.apsvic.org.au Then go to APS Ballarat District page



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